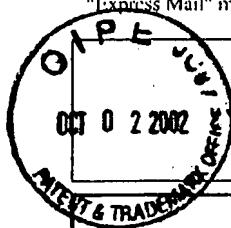


Date of Deposit: October 2, 2002

"Express Mail" mailing label number EL 500980859 US



CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA) REQUEST TRANSMITTAL

Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing.
(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d))

CHECK BOX, if applicable:

DUPLICATE

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents

Box CPA
Washington, DC 20231

Attorney Docket No. of Prior Application	6270/26
First Named Inventor	Simon H. Lightbody
Examiner Name	Timothy Edwards
Group/Art Unit.	2635
Express Mail Label No.	EL 500980859 US

RECEIVED

OCT 07 2002

Technology Center 2600

This is a request for a continuation or divisional application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), (continued prosecution application (CPA)) of prior application number 09/370,696, filed August 9, 1999, entitled EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS INTERFACE FOR A REVENUE METER.

NOTES

FILING QUALIFICATIONS: The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either: (1) complete as defined by 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 371.

C-P NOT PERMITTED: A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b).

EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an application that is not to be abandoned.

ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION: In a CPA, no reference to the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, it will not be entered. A request for a CPA is the specific request required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 and to every application assigned the application number identified in such request, 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(a).

1. Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on _____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application.
2. A preliminary amendment is enclosed.
3. This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)(4).
 - a. **DELETE** the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:

 - b. The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.
4. A new power of attorney or authorization of agent is enclosed.
5. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed:
 - a. PTO-1449
 - b. Copies of IDS Citations

Match and Return

10/04/2002 AWNDNAF1 00000120 09370696

01 FE:131
02 FC:103

740.00 DP
18.00 DF

CLAIMS	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
	TOTAL CLAIMS (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(c))	52-51 =	1	x \$ 18.00	\$18
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(b))	3 - 6 =	0	x \$ 84.00	
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(d))			+ \$ 280.00	
				BASIC FEE (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(a))	740.00
				Total of above Calculations =	
				Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (Note 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).	
				TOTAL =	\$758

6. Small entity status:

- a. A small entity statement is enclosed.
- b. A small entity statement was filed in the prior nonprovisional application and such status is still proper and desired.
- c. Is no longer claimed.

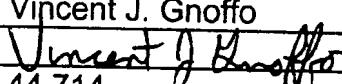
7. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge the following fees to Deposit Account No. 23-1925:

- a. Fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16.
- b. Fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.
- c. Fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18.

8. A check in the amount of \$ 758 is enclosed.

9. Other: _____

NOTE: The prior application's correspondence address will carry over to this application UNLESS a new correspondence address is submitted.

10. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED	
NAME	Vincent J. Gnoffo
SIGNATURE	
Registration No.	44,714
DATE	October 2, 2002

Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, IL 60610



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